Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 IGA-01 XMB-04

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R 131750Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0753

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS BONN 09583

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, ELTN, GB, GW

SUBJECT: GABON ACCESS ROADS

REF: KINSHASA 4130

- 1. SUMMARY: EHM TOLD EMBOFF TODAY, JUNE 13, THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC CAN ACCEPT THE LIBREVILLE AGREEMENT REPORTED REFTEL, ALTHOUGH ONE TECHNICAL POINT REMAINS TO BE CLARIFIED. NEXT WEEK THE MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION WILL SIMULTANEOUSLY SEND FORMAL NOTE TO EMBASSY BONN AND FRG EMBASSY LIBREVILLE FOR TRANSMISSION TO GOG INDICATING APPROVAL. END SUMMARY.
- 2. DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION OF FRG PROGRAMS AND PLANS IN CENTRAL AFRICA WITH DR. EHM FROM MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, EMBOFF ASKED IF FRG HAD TAKEN A POSITION ON THE PROCESS VERBAL REPORTED REFTEL. EHM TOLD EMBOFF THAT FRG WAS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE LIBREVILLE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE, ALTHOUGH ONE TECHNICAL ASPECT STILL NEEDS TO BE RESOLVED. THIS ASPECT CONCERNS THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SELECTING AND PROCURING THE ROAD-BUILDING EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE PAID FOR WITH GERMAN AID FUNDS. EHM SAID THAT THIS POINT COULD BE LEFT FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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LATER RESOLUTION.

- 3. DETERMINING FACTOR IN FRG ACCEPTANCE APPARENTLY WAS LETTER FROM WENDRICK OF KREDITANSTALT TO EHM INDICATING THAT, EXCEPT FOR THE PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE, KREDITANSTALT HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE US PROPOSALS AS CONTAINED IN THE PROCESS VERBAL. SINCE JOINT FUNDING IS NOT ACTUALLY INVOLVED, FRG COULD LIVE WITH TIED PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENT OF US ASSISTANCE.
- 4. MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION WILL TRANSMIT FORMAL ACCEPTANCE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. TECHNICAL PROBLEM IS APPARENTLY NOT A MAJOR ONE SINCE FRG HAS SET NO DATE FOR DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER. EHM GAVE EMBOFF THE IMPRESSION THAT THE MATTER WAS LARGELY A PROBLEM BETWEEN THE GOG AND FRG, ALTHOUGH THE US CONTRIBUTION MAY BE INDIRECTLY AFFECTED.
- 5. EHM APOLOGIZED FOR TAKING SO LONG TO REACH A DECISION, BUT NOTED THAT GERMAN AMBASSADOR IN LIBREVILLE HAD MADE ONLY A SHORT REPORT ON THE LIBREVILLE MEETING, FORCING HIM (EHM) TO RELY EXCLUSIVELY ON THE KREDITANSTALT RECOMMENDATIONS.

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